

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-02 H-02 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01

AGR-05 TAR-01 OPIC-03 XMB-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 /087 W

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O P 111005Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHC IMMEDIATE 6551

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC

SUBJ: EC SUMMIT: NO BREAKTHROUGH BUT GOOD ATMOSPHERE

REF: LONDON 3612

1. EC HEADS OF GOVERNMENT CONTINUED THEIR MEETING UNTIL SMALL HOURS OF TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 11. FOR FIRST TIME IN ANY EC SUMMIT, PARTICIPANTS SUCCESSFULLY MAINTAINED HIGH DEGREE OF SECRECY. TUESDAY MORNING PRESS HAS PICKED UP FEW LEAKS AND HAS
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SOME INCORRECT STORIES.

2. WE UNDERSTAND THAT VIRTUALLY ENTIRE DEBATE HAS FOCUSED ON BRITISH RENEGOTIATION, AS EXPECTED. CSCE WAS DISCUSSED BRIEFLY OVER COFFEE AFTER DINNER, BUT WE HAVE HAD NO REPORT OF ANY DECISIONS ON SUBJECT.

3. PM WILSON HAS REPORTEDLY GIVEN ASSURANCE THAT BRITAIN HAS ONLY TWO RENEGOTIATION DEMANDS. THEY ARE CONCERNED WITH BRITISH OVERPAYMENTS TO EC AND ACCESS FOR NEW ZEALAND DAIRY PRODUCTS. SEVERAL SOURCES ALSO REPORT THAT WILSON HAS SAID HE WILL "NOT REMAIN NEUTRAL" IN THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IF SUMMIT REACHES A SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION ON THESE TOPICS AND IF THE BRITISH CABINET ACCEPTS THE CONCLUSION.

4. ATMOSPHERICS MAY BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE LIMITED PROGRESS ON SUBSTANCE. THERE IS NO FEELING OF DOOM: ON THE CONTRARY, DELEGATES SEEM MAINLY TIRED OUT BY TEDIOUS WORK. GISCARD IS STAYING IN THE BACKGROUND, SAYING VERY LITTLE, AND NOT (AS SOME HAD FEARED) PLAYING THE PRIMA DONNA. SCHMIDT HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO BRIDGE BRITISH AND FRENCH POSITIONS, APPARENTLY WITH SOME SUCCESS. IN SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE, HE PROPOSED A CEILING ON REIMBURSEMENT OF BRITISH OVERPAYMENTS. WHEN THIS FORMULA WAS PASSED TO TECHNICAL EXPERTS, HOWEVER, IT WAS FOUND UNWORKABLE.

5. MEETING WILL RESUME AT 1000Z TUESDAY MORNING, AND IT IS CLEAR THAT MUCH HARD WORK REMAINS TO BE DONE. MOORE

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